

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 DRC-01 /050 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3403

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4417

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJ: SPECIAL DAILY SITREP, APRIL 3, 1974

FOLG TEL SENT ACTION PRIORITY SAIGON, ROUTINE DANANG, NHA TRANG,
CAN THO, INFO DAO SAIGON, CG USSAG NKP THAI FROM AMCONSUL BIEN
HOA 04 APRIL 74 REPEATED FYACTION

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BIEN HOA 157

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, VS

SUBJ: SPECIAL DAILY SITREP - APRIL 3, 1974

1. MR 3 MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUED AT A HIGH LEVEL WITH 59
INCIDENTS REPORTED FOR 24 HOUR PERIOD ENDING 0800 APRIL 4. MAJOR
ACTIONS WERE 12 GROUND CONTACTS AND 29 ATTACKS BY FIRE. GVN
CASUALTIES WERE 30 KIA, 59 WIA, 4 MIA WHILE ENEMY LOSSES WERE
27 KIA, 1 CIA AND 1 RALLIER. RALLIER WAS IDENTIFIED AS A BN XO,
ACTING CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE Z-29 TRANSPORTATION BN, 7TH NVA
DIV. HAU NGHIA WAS AGAIN THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE WITH 17 INCI-
DENTS. BINH DUONG REPORTED 9, PHUOC TUY 6 AND THERE WERE 5 EACH
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IN TAY NINH, LONG KHANH AND BINH LONG. VNAF FLEW 53 SORTIES

AGAINST COMMUNIST POSITIONS IN BINH DUONG, LONG KHANH, HAU NGHIA AND TAY NINH.

2. DUC HUE RANGER CAMP TOOK 22 ROUNDS OF ABF BUT NO CASUALTIES RESULTED. ENEMY ARTILLERY AND MORTAR WAS EVEN MORE INTENSE THAN BEFORE NORTHEAST OF TRANG BANG WITH 7 ABF'S (47 ROUNDS) KILLING 4 FRIENDLY AND WOUNDING 10. NINE OF THE ROUNDS SCORED HITS IN TRUNG LAP VILLAGE. THE 315TH MOBILE STRIKE FORCE MADE THREE CONTACTS (USEF) AND ACTIVATED A MINE 7 KMS NORTH OF CU CHI RESULTING IN FRIENDLY LOSSES OF 6 KIA AND 17 WIA.

3. MR 3 HQS HAS RECEIVED INTELLIGENCE INDICATING THE 5TH NVA DIV FORWARD HEADQUARTERS HAS MOVED FROM THE PARROT'S BEAK INTO THE STRAIGHT EDGE WOODS AREA OF WESTERN TAY NINH PROVINCE ABOUT 4 KMS FROM THE CAMBODIAN BORDER. ANTICIPATING INCREASED PRESSURE ON TAY NINH CITY THROUGH SAPPER ATTACKS AND ABF'S, THE MR 3 COMMAND HAS ALERTED THE 318TH MOBILE TASK FORCE, (LOCATED BETWEEN TRANG BANG AND KHIEM HAHN), AND THE ARVN 49TH REGT 25TH DIV (AT TAY NINH) TO BE READY TO COUNTER ANY SUCH NVA MOVE. IN TWO SEPARATE ATTACKS, NVA/VC FIRED 300 ROUNDS OF MIXED MORTAR AND ARTILLERY AGAINST THE 3RD PF GROUP 8 KMS SW OF HIEU THIEN. FIVE CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED AND FIVE HOUSES DESTROYED.

4. ON APRIL 3 THE ARVN 3RD BN 9TH REGT AND THE 9TH RECON CO (5TH DIV) HAD TWO ENGAGEMENTS 9 KMS NE OF LAI KHE. THE ENEMY FIRED 30 ROUNDS OF 61MM MORTAR. GVN LOSSES WERE 9 KIA AND 12X WIA WHILE NVA/VC KNOWN CASUALTIES WERE 9 KIA. ARVN ALSO CAPTURED SEVERAL WEAPONS AND DESTROYED 12 BUNKERS.

5. COMMUNIST FORCES CONTINUE TO HARASS ARVNAF OUTPOSTS IN PHUOC TUY AND LONG KHANH ALONG ROUTE 2. PHUOC TUY'S DUC THANH DISTRICT SUBSECTOR HQ AND THE 372ND RF OUTPOST 6 KMS TO THE NORTH WITHSTOOD LIGHT SHELLING MORNING OF APRIL 3, BUT AN ARMOR CAR COMPANY OPERATING JUST SOUTH OF THE RF OUTPOST SUFFERED 1 KIA AND 2 WIA FOLLOWING AN 82MM MORTAR BARRAGE. IN SOUTHERN LONG KHANH ELEMENTS OF THE RF 342ND BN, IN THREE SEPARATE INCIDENTS ALONG ROUTE 2, REMOVED A NVA/VC MAKESHIFT ROADBLOCK, DISARMED AN IMPROVISED 105MM SHELL MINE, AND UNDERWENT LIGHT MORTAR FIRE WITHOUT CASUALTIES.

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6. WE HAVE NOW CONFIRMED THAT DURING NIGHT OF MARCH 29/30 SOME SORT OF OBSTRUCTION WAS ON QL 1, APPARENTLY FOR SEVERAL HOURS, ABOUT 5 KIMS EAST OF TRANG BANG TOWN. WE ARE INVESTIGATING FURTHER BUT PRESENT INFORMATION IS THAT OBSTRUCTION CONSISTED OF THREE SMALL MOUNDS OF DIRT ON THE ROAD DURING THE CURFEW PERIOD. MR 3 HQS DOES NOT CONSIDER THE INCIDENT TO HAVE ANY MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE AND SOME SENIOR STAFF OFFICERS APPARENTLY WERE NOT EVEN AWARE OF IT.

PETERS.

UNQUOTE.

MARTIN

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NNN

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